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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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23640	7590	12/22/2005	EXAMINER	
BAKER BOTTS, LLP 910 LOUISIANA HOUSTON, TX 77002-4995			BORLINGHAUS, JASON M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3628	
DATE MAILED: 12/22/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/491,286	DAVIS ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Jason M. Borlinghaus	3628	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 October 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                            2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 44-63 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 44-63 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                     | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
|  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .                                  |

**DETAILED ACTION*****Claim Objections***

**Claim 44** is objected to because of the following informalities: lack of antecedent basis. Claim 44 (lines 10 – 11) claims "the old system configuration" but should read "the old system configuration data."

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

**Claims 44 - 47** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rathbone (Rathbone, A. *Upgrading & Fixing PCs For Dummies: 4<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Foster City, CA, IDG Books Worldwide Inc, 1998. pp. 26, 75 – 76, 88 – 89, 163, 320 and 326) in view of Jacobs (Jacobs, April. *More Businesses Buying PCs*

*Online. Computerworld. Framingham. vol. 32, iss. 34. August 24, 1998. pp. 45 – 46) and Rood (Rood, Stephen C. *Computer Hardware Maintenance*. Reed Elsevier Group. Newtown, MA. 1996. pp. 143 – 144).*

**Regarding Claims 44, 45 and 47,** Rathbone discloses a method comprising:

- executing configuration utility software (Device Manager) on the old (current) computer system. (see pp. 75 - 76, *How Do I Know What Parts I Have?*);
- storing the old (current) configuration data as an old (current) system configuration. (see pp. 88 – 89, *A printout of your important files*);
- selecting at least one component of the old (current) computer system (video card and monitor) for reuse in the new system. (see p. 163, *Will Replacing My Old CPU With A Hot, New CPU Speed It Up ?*).

Rathbone does not *explicitly* teach a method comprising:

- comparing the new hardware configuration data and the old (current) hardware configuration data; and
- determining a compatible component list indicating which components of the old (current) computer system may be reused in the new computer system.

Comparing configuration data between two systems to access the reusability and/or compatibility of components between one or more systems is

old and well-known with the art of computer system design and computer maintenance, as evidenced by Rathbone which states "Still, dissect that old 486 for its parts: Yank out the old video card, or buy a new old if the old card isn't PCI compatible." (see p. 163, *Will Replacing My Old CPU With A Hot, New CPU Speed It Up ?*). Such a statement by Rathbone implies that the user must assess the reusability and compatibility of components when reusing said components such as when making the determination whether a video card is or is not "PCI compatible."

In considering the disclosure of Rathbone, it is pertinent to point out not only specific teachings of Rathbone but also the reasonable inferences which one skilled in the art which one skilled in the art would logically draw therefrom. *In re Shepard*, 138 USPQ 148 (CCPA 1963). Additionally, every patent application and reference relies to some extent on knowledge of persons skilled in the art to complement that which is disclosed, in order that it be 35 USC 112 "enabling," and to satisfy requirements of reference under 35 USC 102. *In re Bode, Nolan, Baker, Mathias and Pfaender*, 193 USPQ 12 (CCPA 1977).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the method utilized by Rathbone would have also utilized the ability to compare configuration data and to determine a compatible component list of components which may be reused, as is implied by Rathbone and would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, allowing the user to determine which parts may be reused in a new computer system.

Rathbone does not teach that the method is automatic. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have automated the method, since it has been held that broadly providing a mechanical or automatic means to replace manual activity that accomplishes the same result involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Venner*, 120 USPQ 192.

Rathbone discloses a method comprising:

- receiving old (original) configuration data for the old (original) computer system. (see p. 75, *How Do I Know Which Parts I Have?*)

Rathbone does not teach a method comprising:

- accessing a first manufacturer's database, wherein accessing includes logging onto the storefront database from a first computer network;
- requesting information from an old computer system using a configuration request;
- receiving old configuration data for the old computer system from the first manufacturer's database;
- accessing a second manufacturer's new computer hardware catalog stored in a storefront database using a second computer network;
- transmitting a new hardware inquiry to the storefront database;
- receiving new hardware configuration data corresponding to a new computer system from the second manufacturer; and

- the first network being the same as the second computer network.

Jacobs discloses a method comprising:

- accessing a first/second manufacturer's (Dell/Gateway/Compaq...) database/hardware catalog (website), wherein accessing includes logging onto the storefront database (website) from a first/second computer network (Internet). (see pp. 45 – 46, including pictures);
- requesting/transmitting information about an old/new computer system using a configuration request/hardware inquiry (product/model search). (see pp. 45 – 46, including pictures);
- receiving configuration data (specs/configuration) for the old/new computer system from the first/second manufacturer's database. (see pp. 45 – 46, including pictures); and
- the first network (Internet) being the same as the second computer network (Internet).

Searching a manufacturer's database (website) via configuration requests/hardware inquiries (product/model search) and receiving configuration data about the requested computer system is old and well known in the art of Internet sales and computer sales, as evidenced by Jacobs (see pictures).

In considering the disclosure of Jacobs, it is pertinent to point out not only specific teachings of Jacobs but also the reasonable inferences which one skilled in the art which one skilled in the art would logically draw therefrom.

*In re Shepard*, 138 USPQ 148 (CCPA 1963). Additionally, every patent application and reference relies to some extent on knowledge of persons skilled

in the art to complement that which is disclosed, in order that it be 35 USC 112 "enabling," and to satisfy requirements of reference under 35 USC 102. *In re Bode, Nolan, Baker, Mathias and Pfaender*, 193 USPQ 12 (CCPA 1977).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Rathbone by incorporating the ability to request configuration data from the manufacturer's database, as disclosed by Jacobs, to provide an additional avenue through which to secure configuration data of the old computer systems, as well as configuration data of a new computer system, allowing the user to anticipate which components may be reusable.

Rathbone discloses a method comprising:

- receiving old (original) configuration data (obtained via manuals, sales receipts...) for the old (original) computer system. (see p. 75, *How Do I Know Which Parts I Have?*);
- storing old (original) configuration data (obtained via manuals, sales receipts...) for the old (original) computer system; (see p. 26, *Do hang onto your old boxes, manuals, warranties, and receipts*);
- executing configuration utility software (Device Manager) on the old (current) computer system. (see pp. 75 - 76, *How Do I Know What Parts I Have?*); and
- storing the old (current) configuration data as an old (current) system configuration. (see pp. 88 – 89, *A printout of your important files*);

Rathbone does not teach a method comprising:

- highlighting any components of the old computer system identified by the configuration utility software as differing from the old system configuration data; and
- altering the old system configuration data to reflect any different components identified by the configuration utility software.

Rood discloses a method comprising:

- altering (updating) the old system configuration data (PC hardware history) to reflect any different components installed (hardware maintenance). (see p. 144)

Highlighting alterations, tracking upgrades, recording maintenance history, altering and/or updating hardware configurations is old and well known in the art of computer systems design and computer system maintenance, as evidenced by Rood.

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Rathbone and Jacobs by incorporating the ability to utilize the old (original) configuration data and current configuration data, obtained via Device Manager, as disclosed by Rathbone, to continuously highlight and alter the old (original) computer configuration data to represent the current configuration of the computer system, as disclosed by Rood, to provide the user with the most up-to-date and complete configuration data and configuration history upon which to base their deliberations of utilizing existing components within a new computer system.

**Regarding Claim 46**, neither Rathbone, Jacobs nor Rood teach a method further comprising:

- the first manufacturer being the same as the second manufacturer.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made that the first manufacturer of the old computer system and the second manufacturer of the new computer system could have been the same. Jacobs provides a list of possible vendors and their comparative portions of the marketplace (see p. 45 – 46). Considering the limited number of popular manufacturers, as indicated above, and brand loyalty among consumers, it would have been possible for consumers to purchase their new computer system from the same manufacturer as their old computer system.

**Claim 48** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rathbone, Jacobs and Rood, as with Claim 44 above, and in further view of Kaplan (Kaplan, K. *Integrating Old PCs Back Into Society. Los Angeles Times*. December 20, 1995. p.4).

Rathbone discloses a method further comprising:

- considering utilizing new components in a old computer system.  
(see p. 163, *Will Replacing My Old CPU With A Hot, New CPU Speed It Up ?*);
- considering utilizing old components in a new computer system.  
(see p. 163, *Will Replacing My Old CPU With A Hot, New CPU Speed It Up ?*); and

- considering financial implications of replacing components and purchasing new computer system. (see p. 163, *Will Replacing My Old CPU With A Hot, New CPU Speed It Up ?*).

Neither Rathbone, Jacobs nor Rood teach a method further comprising:

- determining the street values of the old computer system with and without at least one reusable component.

Kaplan discloses a method further comprising:

- determining the street values (price quote) of the old computer system with and without at least one reusable component (depending upon the configuration). ("...RTI will pay for the machines. Depending on the configuration, condition and manufacturer of a computer, RTI will pay \$100 to \$200 for a used 286 PC....").

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Rathbone, Jacobs and Rood by incorporating the ability to determine the street values of the old computer with and without reusable components, as was disclosed by Kaplan, to assist in financial analysis of component reuse, as disclosed by Rathbone, by determining whether the reusable component has more value as a reusable component or as something to be sold with the old computer system.

**Claim 49** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood and Kaplan, as with Claim 48 above, and in further view

of Siguel (Siguel, E.N. *A PC Buyer's Primer. Medical Laboratory Observer*, vol. 26, no. 10. October 1994. pp. 70 – 73).

Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood nor Kaplan teach a method further comprising:

- determining whether to reuse a component of the old computer system in the new computer system based on the street values.

Siguel discloses a method further comprising:

- determining whether to reuse a component of the old computer system in the new computer system based on the street values (financial considerations). ("Upgrade if you can save and reuse many components you already have, such as a large hard drive...monitor, keyboard, case, power supply, and CD, tape, and floppy drives. You should probably buy a new computer if you need a new monitor or hard drive in addition to the motherboard...The saving due to reusing only your floppy drives, case, and power supply are usually insufficient to justify upgrading the old system.

Reusing an old, small hard drive is probably not cost-effective...").

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modified Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood nor Kaplan by incorporating the ability to determine the financial value of reusing a component from the old computer system, as was illustrated by Siguel, into the financial analysis of component reuses, as disclosed by Rathbone and Kaplan, to establish whether reusing a component from the old computer system in the new computer system would be cost-effective.

**Claim 50 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood and Kaplan, as with Claim 48 above, and in further view of Barzilai (US Patent 6,012,045).**

Rathbone discloses a method further comprising:

- disposing of an old system configuration minus at least one component to be reused in the new computer system. ("If you donate your old 486 and buy a Pentium, however, first remove the video card and keep the monitor. Then plug these into your new replacement Pentium." – p. 320, *Upgrading Computers Older Computers Like the 486.*.)

Neither Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood nor Kaplan teach a method further comprising:

- transmitting a hardware description to an online auction site comprising the old system configuration minus at least one component to be reused in the new computer system.

Barzilai discloses a method further comprising:

- transmitting a hardware description to an online auction site. (see abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood and Kaplan by incorporating the ability to dispose of the old computer system minus the reusable component, as disclosed by Rathbone, via an online auction, as

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disclosed by Barzilai, would require the transmission of an accurate hardware description to the online auction site, as disclosed by Barzilai, to allow the user to recover some financial benefit from the disposing of the old computer system.

**Claim 51** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rathbone, Jacobs, and Roods, as with Claim 44 above, and in further view of Sparks (Sparks, P. *Getting Personal: A Growing Number of Computer-Buyers Are Opting For Made-To-Order Machines. The Augusta Chronicle*. February 16, 1999, p. B01).

Rathbone discloses a method further comprising:

- reusing components from an old computer system in a new computer system. (see p. 163, *Will Replacing My Old CPU With A Hot, New CPU Speed It Up ?*); and
- debating the financial considerations of purchasing a wholly new computer system. (see p. 163, *Will Replacing My Old CPU With A Hot, New CPU Speed It Up ?*).

Jacobs discloses a method further comprising:

- obtaining price estimates for the new computer system based upon configuration. (see Dell website picture).

Neither Rathbone, Jacobs nor Roods teach a method further comprising:

- obtaining price estimates for the new computer system with and without the component selected for reuse.

Sparks disclose a method further comprising:

- obtaining price estimates (price quotes) for the new computer system with and without the component selected for reuse. ("The program asks what size and type of hard drive you want, how much memory you think you'll need, what type of motherboard you want, if you would like a video card, a Zip drive, sound card, CD-ROM drive or DVD player, and it also gives options for selecting various computer programs. A price quote appears on the screen, and a sales person reviews your picks with you before your purchase.")

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Rathbone, Jacobs and Roods by incorporating the ability to obtain price estimates with or without the component for reuse, as disclosed by Sparks, to assist in financial analysis of component reuse by determining whether it would be cost-effective to reuse component from old computer system or purchasing a new computer system with new component.

**Claims 52 - 56** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rathbone, Jacobs and Rood, as with Claim 44 above, and in further view of Anonymous (Anonymous. *Are You Y2K Complaint. The API Account*. Baltimore: Spring 1999, vol. 26, issue 1, p. 3).

**Regarding Claim 52**, Rathbone does not teach a method wherein:

- the configuration request further comprises a unique tag corresponding to the old computer system.

Jacobs discloses a method wherein:

- the configuration request (product search) further comprises a tag (product/model number) corresponding to the old (original) computer system. (see pp. 45 – 46, including pictures, especially Gateway website picture).

Anonymous discloses a method:

- wherein the configuration request further comprises a unique tag (serial number) corresponding to the old (original) computer system. (“You will need to know the model of your computer, your serial number, and the manufacturer.”).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Rathbone, Jacobs and Rood by incorporating a unique tag such as a serial number, as disclosed by Anonymous, to provide a unique identifier to the configuration request, rather than a generic identifier such as a product/model number, as disclosed by Jacobs, to properly and accurately link the configuration request to the user’s specific old computer system.

**Regarding Claim 53,** Claim 53 recites similar limitations to Claims 44, 45 and 52, in combination, and is therefore rejected using the same art and rationale as applied in the rejection of Claims 44, 45 and 52.

**Regarding Claim 54,** Claim 54 recites similar limitations to Claim 44 and is therefore rejected using the same art and rationale as applied in the rejection of Claim 44.

**Regarding Claim 55,** Claim 55 recites similar limitations to Claims 46 and 47, in combination, and is therefore rejected using the same art and rationale as applied in the rejection of Claims 46 and 47.

**Regarding Claim 56,** Claim 56 recites similar limitations to Claim 45 and is therefore rejected using the same art and rationale as applied in the rejection of Claim 45.

**Claim 57** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood and Anonymous, as with Claim 53 above, and in further view of Barzilai.

**Claim 57** recites similar limitations to Claims 50 and is therefore rejected using the same art and rationale as applied in the rejection of Claim 50.

**Claims 58 – 60 and 62 – 63** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood, Kaplan, Siguel and Sparks.

**Regarding Claim 58,** Claim 58 recites similar limitations to Claims 44, 45, 48, 49 and 51, in combination, except:

- computing transaction amounts with and without reuse of the reusable component; and
- selecting the lowest transaction amount.

Rathbone discloses a method comprising:

- considering utilizing new components in a old computer system.  
(see p. 163, *Will Replacing My Old CPU With A Hot, New CPU Speed It Up ?*);
- considering utilizing old components in a new computer system.  
(see p. 163, *Will Replacing My Old CPU With A Hot, New CPU Speed It Up ?*); and
- considering financial implications of replacing components and purchasing new computer system. (see p. 163, *Will Replacing My Old CPU With A Hot, New CPU Speed It Up ?*).

Neither Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood, Kaplan nor Sparks teach a method comprising:

- computing transaction amounts with and without reuse of the reusable component; and
- selecting the lowest transaction amount.

Siguel discloses a method further comprising:

- computing transaction amounts (potential savings/costs) with or without use of the reusable part component. (supra); and
- selecting the most cost-effective option. (supra).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood, Kaplan, Siguel and Sparks the computation of transaction amounts with and without the reuse of reusable components, as disclosed by Siguel, and selecting the lowest transaction amount to ensure that reusing components from the old computer

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system was cost-effective, as disclosed by Siguel, as it is fundamental to the practice of reusing components that the reuse of components be cost-effective and that the user of such a method would seek to minimize his/her transaction costs. Furthermore, as Siguel stated "Reusing an old, small hard drive is probably not cost-effective...", establishing that the assessment on whether to reuse a component from an old computer system ultimately rests upon whether it would be financially wise to reuse the possible component.

**Regarding Claim 59 - 60,** Rathbone discloses a method further comprising:

- reusing a component from the old computer system in the new computer system. (p. 320, *Upgrading Computers Older Computers Like the 486*).

Neither Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood, Kaplan nor Siguel teach a method further comprising:

- modifying the new configuration data to omit/indicate at least one reusable component selected based on the lowest transaction amount and ordering a new computer system corresponding to the new configuration data.

Sparks disclose a method further comprising:

- modifying the new configuration data (new computer system specifications) to omit at least one component and ordering a new computer system corresponding to the new configuration data.

("The program asks what size and type of hard drive you want, how

much memory you think you'll need, what type of motherboard you want, if you would like a video card, a Zip drive, sound card, CD-ROM drive or DVD player, and it also gives options for selecting various computer programs. A price quote appears on the screen, and a sales person reviews your picks with you before your purchase." – establishing that the user can modify and order a new computer system configuration, omitting components from the new computer system should they choose to do so.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood, Kaplan and Sigue by incorporating the ability to modify and order a new computer system configuration, as disclosed by Sparks, to accommodate the possible reuse of components from the old computer system, as disclosed by Rathbone, to reduce the cost of a new computer system.

**Regarding Claims 62 – 63,** Claims 62 – 63 recite similar limitations to Claim 44 and are therefore rejected using the same art and rationale as applied in the rejection of Claim 44.

**Claim 61** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood, Kaplan, Siguel, Sparks and Barzilai.

Rathbone discloses a method further comprising:

- disposing of an old system configuration minus at least one component to be reused in the new computer system. ("If you

donate your old 486 and buy a Pentium, however, first remove the video card and keep the monitor. Then plug these into your new replacement Pentium." – p. 320, *Upgrading Computers Older Computers Like the 486.*).

Niether Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood, Kaplan, Siguel nor Sparks teach a method further comprising:

- modifying the old configuration data to omit at least one reusable component selected based on the lowest transaction amount and transmitting the old configuration data to an online auction system.

Barzilai discloses a method further comprising:

- transmitting a hardware description to an online auction site. (see abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Rathbone, Jacobs, Rood and Kaplan by incorporating the ability to dispose of the old computer system minus the reusable component, as disclosed by Rathbone, via an online auction, as disclosed by Barzilai, would require the transmission of an accurate hardware description to the online auction site, as disclosed by Barzilai, to allow the user to recover some financial benefit from the disposing of the old computer system.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to pending claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

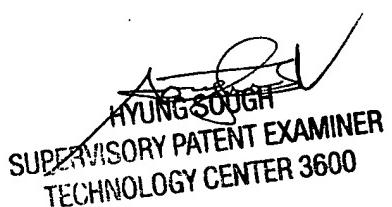
***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason M. Borlinghaus whose telephone number is (571) 272-6924. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5:00pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hyung Sough can be reached on (571) 272-6799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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